



## 2016 Community Garden Rules

### USE AND MAINTENENCE

- (a) The History Center Community Garden is open to the public, for an annual fee, from April 15 thru October 15, 2016.
- (b) Each garden plot is approximately 12' x 20'. The annual fee for each plot is \$50.00 for one plot.
- (c) During the garden season (April 15 thru October 15, 2016) everyone must maintain their plot(s). Gardens have been plowed in the fall of 2015. Gardeners are responsible for all further tilling, soil amendments, cultivating, weeding, fertilizing and watering.
- (d) If plot goes untended or becomes weed infested, gardeners will be contacted by phone, email, or postcard and asked to take care of the plot by a certain date. If you are contacted about an untended plot more than two times in one year, your plot may be reassigned, or tilled under if it is a weed threat to neighboring plots, without further notice or refund.
- (e) When you no longer want your plot, you must notify The History Center of Olmsted County. You cannot give your plot to anyone else.
- (f) Gardener's plots are to be used for growing vegetables, herbs, and flowers for the gardener's own use, or for donation to charitable organizations. Growing shrubs and trees is prohibited.
- (g) All perennial plant materials, semi-permanent structures, wire cages, etc. must be removed at the conclusion of the 2016 growing season, on or before October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Individual gardeners are responsible for clearing the plots and returning them to their original weed-free conditions. Any plant materials must either be composted or removed. Compost bins are located on the grounds or at the north end of the fenced enclosure for all your plant materials.

- (h) Do not pile weeds or rocks in the pathways. Place bagged, non-plant materials in or near a receptacle for disposal or take it home. **DO NOT PLACE NON-PLANT MATERIALS IN THE COMPOST BINS.**

## Neighborly and Eco-Friendly Gardens

Although the gardens are not specified as “organic gardens”, we encourage gardeners to consider alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and weed-killers.

- (i) Gardeners are strongly encouraged to cover their plot(s) with straw or mulch as an excellent method of weed control and water conservation.
- (j) Since plots are close together, gardeners should endeavor to keep their borders free from weeds, out of pathways and other materials that may impact the enjoyment of neighboring plots. Pathways are maintained by mowing, therefore, if plants encroach they may be mowed off.
- (k) Tall plants (such as corn, sunflowers, and/or tall trellised plants) that cast extensive shade should be planted where they will not impact adjoining gardens. **CONTACT THE HISTORY CENTER BEFORE BUILDING ANY TALL STRUCTURE IN YOUR PLOT.** Permanent structures are not allowed in plots.
- (l) Dogs and other pets are not allowed in the garden at any time. They must be leashed and closely supervised near the garden area.
- (m) The use of tobacco products on the grounds of the History Center is prohibited.
- (n) Alcohol is prohibited at the Community Garden site.
- (o) Use common courtesy and resolve differences in a neighborly way. For problems with fellow gardeners, stay polite and listen carefully; usually solutions are easily reached. Verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated.
- (p) Plants of an invasive nature are not allowed. They may only be planted in pots or wooden boxes. Noxious Weeds are not allowed and must be pulled if identified.
- (q) Avoid containers of standing water. They can be a breeding ground for mosquitoes.
- (r) When not in use, tools, hoses, and other equipment cannot be left in the pathways. A storage shed is available for tools. **All personal tools should be clearly marked.**

- (s) Loud radios or audio equipment are prohibited.**
- (t) Tires are not allowed as temporary structures.**
  
- (u) Children are welcome with supervision. Children using tools in the garden must be under direct supervision of a parent or responsible adult.**
- (v) Removal of vegetables, flowers, or garden equipment without the owner's consent or intentional damage to a garden plot is subject to prosecution. The History Center is not responsible for loss of garden products.**
- (w) Any gardener found to be in violation of the Community Garden rules will be asked to leave.**
- (x) All members of the History Center Community Garden are expected to take part in the fall clean-up. The dates for that will be determined and posted.**
- (y) All gardeners are expected to maintain the area(s) around the Community gardens.**